

Photography Exhibition
 "Pakhi'r Desh Bangladesh"
 Venue: Bangladesh National Museum
 Date: Dec 4-11
 Time: 9:30am-4:30pm



Solo Art Exhibition
 Title: How Do I Rent a Planet
 Artist: Razib Datta
 Venue: Kalakendra
 Date: Nov 20- Dec 10
 Time: 5-9pm



10th DU Theatre Festival
 Venue: TSC
 Organizer: Theatre & Performance Studies Dept
 Date: December 3-8; Time: 7pm



Group Art Exhibition
 Aquatic
 Venue: La Galerie, AFD
 Date: Nov 27-Dec 11
 Time: 12-8pm



Solo Exhibition
 Title: Rokeya
 Artist: Rokeya Sultana
 Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, Dhanmondi
 Date: Nov 17-Dec 5
 Time: 12-8pm




(L-R) Ustad Zakir Hussain, flanked by Asaduzzaman Noor and Abul Khair, receives festival memento; Rajagopalan brothers and Pt. Shiv Kumar Sharma weave their magic.

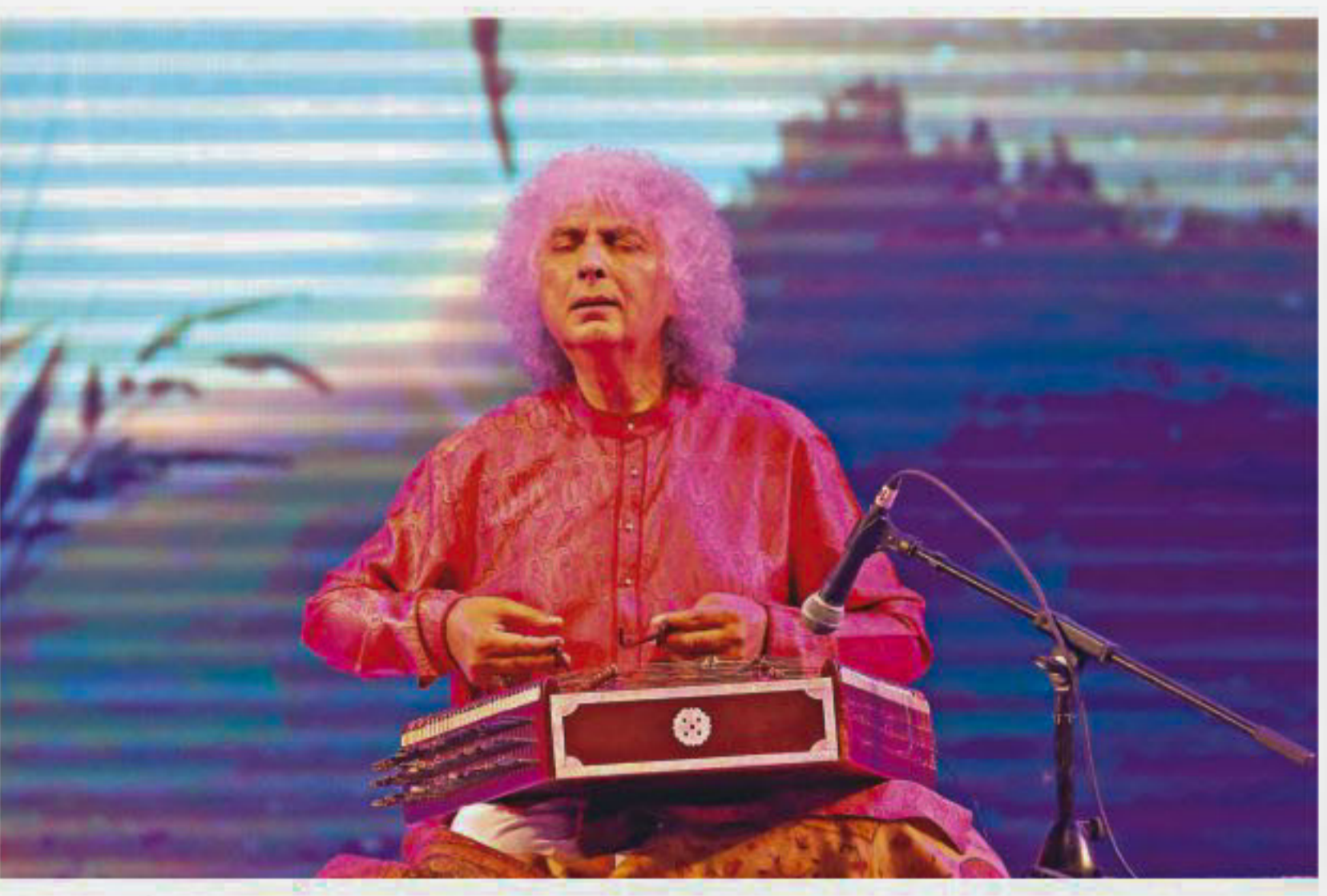


PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

MUSICAL MAGIC ON STAGE

ALOKE KUMAR SEN & ZAHANGIR ALOM

The penultimate night's musical proceedings of Bengal Classical Music Festival 2015 were evocative of musical magic, thanks to the graceful visual poetry portrayed on stage by Raja and Radha Reddy and troupe, divine rhythms produced by legendary Ustad Zakir Hussain; soothing santoor played by Pt. Shivkumar Sharma; nostalgic recital of sarod by Pt. Tejendra Narayan Majumdar; a sawal-jawab styled Carnatic violin recital by Ganesh and Kumaresh Rajagopalan and pristine performance by the lone vocalist of the night Pt. Ulhas Kashalkar.

Legendary Ustad Zakir Hussain started off his magical tabla recital with presenting teentaal while Sabir Khan, son of late sarangi maestro Ustad Sultan Khan, played Raga Madhukauns on his sarangi. Set on various kayda on teentaal, Ustad Zakir Hussain produced heavenly sounds representing rhythms of a train leaving a station. A stunning intrusion of *chik* (high-pitch sound) embellished the tehai part of the kayda. The legend's fingers seemed like magical wands that transparently generated each and every stroke incorporating standing rhythms on baya and aesthetic beats on two tablas. He played only bol on baya that thoroughly enthralled the audience as the maestro simultaneously fabricated sounds of the *damru* and the conch together. A breathtaking tehai was obvious at the end of the piece. A composition called "Laalkella" came next where the living legend showcased

the old days' traditional drum rhythms usually styled by army musicians. He also played a Lahori gaut of 300-year old. The artiste also delineated a visual of two friends -- one is energetic and another is lethargic -- along with the piece proceeded with *tisra jati bol*. Slotting in just two syllables -- "Dhin" and "Ta", the music maestro played a small particular piece pattern. Appreciating the arrangement of the biggest classical music festival of its kind in the world, Ustad Hussain recited a piece evoking invitations to the music lovers that read: come, sit down, get drunk in music, enjoy and go back home. The legend played many such magical sounds including, the sounds of a coach, a stream engine with a whistle together; a picturesque diffusion of melodic rhythm of rain falling on different surfaces; the music of dark clouds, lightning and thunderbolt; *topparan* (falling of

a canon); startling deer and the hunter; a *tripalli gaut* and the sound resembling the running of horses. The God of Santoor Pt. Shivkumar Sharma, as an ambassador of peace of North Indian Classical Music, performed Raga Jogauns, an intermingle of two prominent Ragas -- Jog and Chandrakans -- at the festival. With a soothing and meditative recital of alap, jod and jhala on his santoor, the pandit went beyond the sphere of words and made his melody speak to the divinity. Yogesh Samsi produced aesthetic rhythms on his tabla while accompanying Pt. Shivkumar Sharma's two compositions on Rupa taal and teentaal. The living legend styled a swindling *chalan* of the raga that was evocative of experiencing heavenly touch remaining in the earth. The maestro prominently played the teentaal bandish "Peer Parayi Janey Nehi Balamuwa".

Pt. Tejendra Narayan Majumdar, an eminent sarod maestro of Maihar Gharana, diffused the sweetness of Raga Hemant in the late-autumnal night. Raga Hemant, created by Baba Ustad Allauddin Khan, is not only a raga but also a way of prayer for the Maihar Gharana musicians. Pt. Majumdar's artistic elaboration of melody in alap, jod and jhala part together with Pt. Subhankar Banerjee's divine tabla rhythms in the gaut, jhala and tehai part captivated the crowd. Tejendra Narayan Majumdar later played Raga Manjh Khamaj on Deepchandri (14-beat) and teentaal (16-beat). Carnatic violinist duo Ganesh and Kumaresh Rajagopalan along with the mridandam and the ghatam artistes set off a musical flight that was like the sparks of the spontaneous melodic rhythms set on a dynamic balance. Gripping the apt mood and

melody of two Carnatic Ragams -- Malamawagowla and Shree Ranjani, the troupe played a melodic game. Kumaresh later fashioned a heart-wrenching melody of Raga Bageshree while Ganesh styled a melancholic aura of Raga Shivrangani and the entire performance, exclusively in sawal-jawab style, took music lovers to the transcendental realm of ecstasy. Pt. Ulhas Kashalkar, as always, rendered a lesser-known Raga "Komal Rishabh Asavari" at the festival. The show stopper for the day rendered first a vilambit bandish "Bamna Shagun Bicharo" on tiluara taal. The maestro's pristine pukar, stylish boltaan, akar taan and sweet meend mesmerised all. He wrapped up his part with presenting a khayal on Bhairav Bahar and a bandishi thumri on Bhairavi. Pt. Suresh Talwalkar accompanied the revered music maestro.

NEWS bytes



FOO FIGHTERS drop surprise free EP

The mysterious countdown clock on the Foo Fighters' official website finally ticked down to all zeroes Sunday night, and it was revealed that Dave Grohl's surprise for fans was a new EP titled "Saint Cecilia". The five-track collection, recorded at Austin, Texas' Saint Cecilia Hotel was offered up as a free download. A pre-order of the Saint Cecilia EP is also available at the Foo Fighters' site. In addition to the new EP, Grohl also penned a long letter to fans that tracked the Sonic Highways journey, detailed his gruesome leg injury and paid tribute to those killed in the Paris terror attacks. The EP was meant to be an end-of-the-tour thank you gift to fans, but the final leg of the Sonic Highways jaunt was cut short by the November 13th attack in Paris. Foo Fighters also posted a link for fans to donate to victims of the attack. Throughout the letter, Grohl also hinted that the Foo Fighters might be going on a well-deserved break, and possibly a long hiatus.

BATMAN v SUPERMAN

teaser unmasks Bruce Wayne

A new "Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice" teaser trailer debuted during the midseason finale of Fox's TV show "Gotham", and the intense new scene showed a powerful confrontation between Ben Affleck's Dark Knight and Henry Cavill's Man of Steel -- all without a punch being thrown. In the 30 second spot, a bound Batman is held captive in some kind of desert

bunker, before Superman flies in, strides up to the hero and pulls off his mask, revealing Affleck's Bruce Wayne. Affleck admitted that he was drawn to the role of the iconic hero because "Batman v Superman" will provide a version of the Caped Crusader that we haven't seen before -- "This older, more broken, kind of f---ed up Batman ... We have seen that Batman is willing to cross the line to protect people.

That vigilantism has been a part of his character all along, and we are tapping into that mentality when faced by something as potentially as deadly as Superman." The new trailer for the hotly anticipated Warner Bros. superhero sequel will debut on "Jimmy Kimmel Live" on Wednesday. "Batman v Superman" also stars Jesse Eisenberg (Lex Luthor), Amy Adams (Lois Lane), Laurence Fishburne (Perry White), Jeremy Irons (Alfred Pennyworth) Diane Lane (Martha Kent), and will feature the big-screen debut of Gal Gadot's Wonder Woman and Jason Momoa's Aquaman ahead of the characters' standalone films, as well as two planned "Justice League" films, which will bring all of DC Comics' most iconic heroes together. Snyder has directed "Batman v Superman" from Chris Terrio's script, based on a story by Snyder and David S. Goyer. The film hits theatres on March 25.

Source: Variety

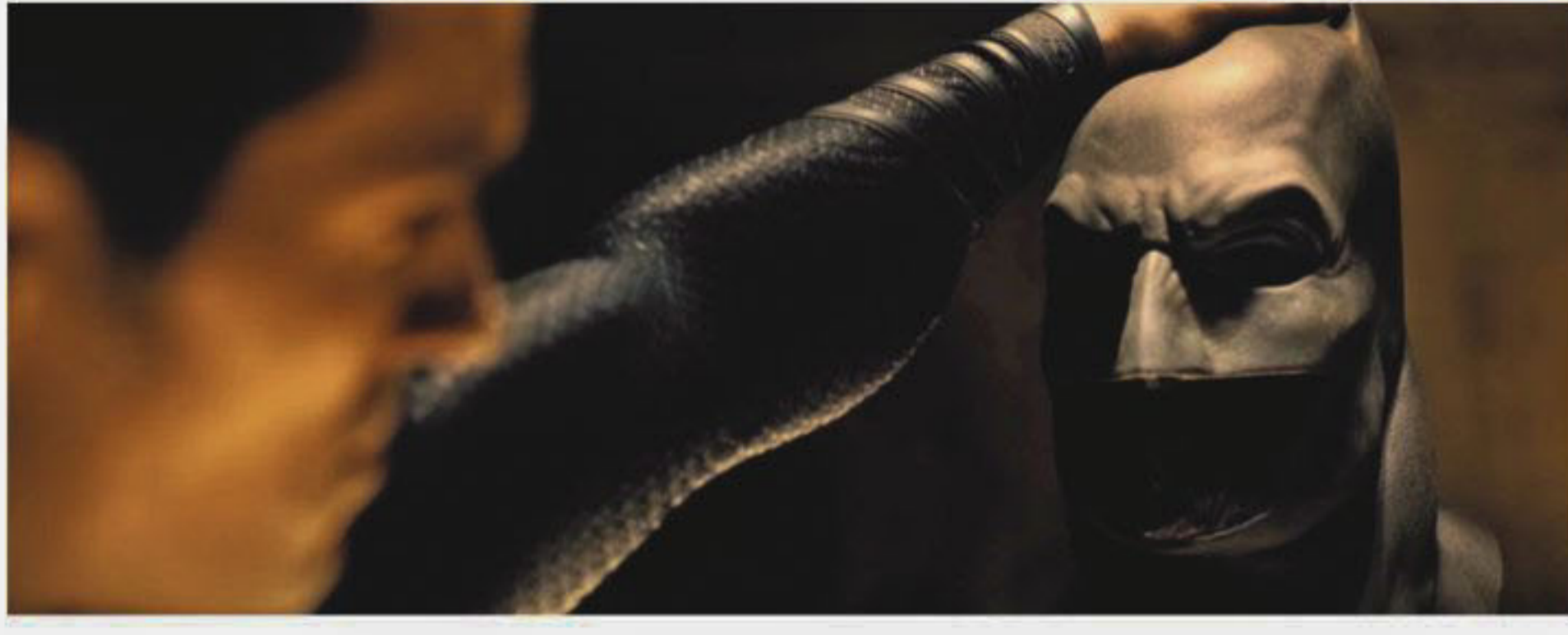


PHOTO: RIDWAN ADDI RUPON

The Reddy family in one frame.

Revealed

by the Reddys

Kuchipudi at the Bengal Fest stage

NAZIBA BASHER

The lights dimmed and you could hear the musicians ascend the stage. The faint 'jhumur' of the ghungru could be heard if you really paid close attention. As the lights came on and the musicians, Kaushalya in nattuvangam (cymbals), Kiran in venu (flute), Lavanya in vocal and Bhaskar Rao in Mridangam, began in sync, Kuchipudi dance exponents and one of the first classical dancing couples of India, Raja and Radha Reddy graced the stage to pray to Lord Ganesh with a Ganapati Vandana. They mesmerised the audience into the prayer with them. The next performance was a Tandava on Lord Shiva - Kalinga Narthana, performed by Raja and Radha Reddy's daughter, protégé Yamini Reddy. As she took on the stage, adorned in the colour of fire, her precise mudras, fierce expressions and on-point rhythm made the piece ever more exhilarating. Endowed with a sculpted figure, a perfect sharp face and scintillating grace, she beautifully combined into herself her father's tandava and her mother's graceful lasya. Bhavana Reddy then enlightened the stage with her graceful and joyful movements in her performance of the Krishna Kalinga Narthana. As she displayed her perfected relationship with rhythm, her expressions was what left the audience enthralled. She was excellent in the rhythmic and expressive parts of Kuchipudi dance, with remarkable intricate footwork. The next two pieces were a Rasa performed by sisters Yamini and Bhavana, which told the tale of Krishna and the Gopika, after which, their parents, Raja and Radha performed a piece that told a tale from Kurukshetra war, on how Arjuna was advised and motivated by Lord Krishna to fight the war. The performance ended with the whole family on stage doing a wondrous piece called the Tarangam, where the dancers are required to dance on the rims of a brass plate while staying in perfect synchrony with the rhythm of the mridangam. As the one of a kind family concluded, planting their final steps on the stage, the audience was left breathless, craving for more.

International photography exhibition at Bistaar

PRANABESH CHAKRABORTY, Chittagong. Children playing in a circle create an image like a blooming flower on the middle portion of a green field. Their dresses and motion make an illusion of colours. From behind, a group of audience is enjoying their playing. The eye catching photograph "Motion of Joy", captured by photographer Hasan Murad, draws attention of anybody who enters the gallery of Bistaar: Chittagong Arts Complex, where the international photography exhibition titled "Show Us the World" is going on. Like the photo, 30 selected photographs from different countries are on display at the exhibition. This year, 350 photographers from 30 countries had submitted 700 photographs in the photography contest. In partnership with the University of Quebec at Chicoutimi (UQAC), Bistaar: Chittagong Arts Complex is hosting the fourth edition of the exhibition at its gallery at Mehediabag in the port city. Eminent photographer Shoeb Faruque inaugurated the exhibition on Friday where Alliance Française de Chittagong Director



PHOTO: STAR

Visitors through the exhibit.

Raphael Jaeger and art critic and Bistaar Founding Director Alam Khorshed were present. Infringement that some past winning photographs of the show were published by National Geographic Society, Alam Khorshed told The Daily Star that the competition had aroused interest, particularly in Asia. Alongside foreign photographers, many local photographers also took part in the photography contest and two photo-

graphs of local photographer Hasan Murad got place in the exhibition, he added. At the exhibition, photographs of Tai Kwok from Hong Kong, Rossi Fang of Taiwan, Lim Chee Keong of Myanmar and Choh Wah Ye from Malaysia are mention worthy. The exhibition will continue till December 10. Later, it will travel to Asian University for Women in Chittagong, India and France, said organisers.